## Message Text

**SECRET** 

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**EXDIS** 

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, CI

SUBJECT: LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION: CHILEAN DELEGATION MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS HABIB, MARCH 10, 1978

1. DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER WAS DETAINED ON THE HILL ON PANAMA AND COULD NOT MAKE THE SCHEDULED HOUR ON MARCH 10 FOR APPOINTMENT WITH CHILEAN DELEGATION LED BY MONTERO. CONSEQUENTLY, UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS HABIB RECEIVED DELEGATION. CHILEANS INCLUDED MONTERO, SCHWEITZER, PANTOJA, AND CAUAS. AMERICANS INCLUDED HABIB, BUSHNELL, MCNEIL, STEVEN, INTERPRETER SEIDENMAN, AND P EXECUTIVE SECRET

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ASSISTANT TICE.

2. HABIB THANKED DELEGATION FOR COMING TO US AND FOR ASSURANCES OF COOPERATION. HE STRESSED SERIOUSNESS OF MATTER TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND OUR EXPECTATION OF RAPID RESPONSE IN MEETING OUR ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INFORMATION. HE ASSURED MONTERO THAT REPORT ON MEETINGS WITH

DELEGATION WOULD BE MADE TO SECRETARY VANCE AND THE PRESIDENT.

3. MONTERO REPEATED ASSURANCES ON GOC SIDE, NOTING SHARED

CONCERN OF GOC FOR FAST, HONEST INVESTIGATION TO SERVE ENDS OF JUSTICE. HE RAISED GOC CONCERN WITH PUBLICITY ON CASE, AND NEED FOR PUBLIC OPINION IN BOTH COUNTRIES TO UNDERSTAND THAT GOC COLLABORATING FULLY. GOC EXPECTS TO COOPERATE WITH EMPHASIS ON "SPECIALIZED AGENCIES" - FBI AND CNI. PRESIDENT PINOCHET HAS STATED THAT INVESTIGATION IS TO BE PURSUED "TO ITS ULTIMATE CONSEQUENCES" ACCORDING TO MONTERO

4. MONTERO ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS IN POSITION TO GIVE US ADVANCE NOTICE OF NEW AND IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT, WHICH CNI WILL COMMUNICATE TO FBI. IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT TWO PERSONS WHO WENT TO PARAGUAY TO OBTAIN FRAUDULANT VISAS THERE UNDER NAMES "WILLIAMS" AND "ROMERAL" WERE NOT THE TWO PERSONS WHO OBTAINED OFFICIAL VISAS IN SANTIAGO UNDER SAME NAMES TO GO TO US. GOC DOES KNOW WHO THESE LATTER PERSONS WERE, WILL PERMIT USG TO EXAMINE THE PASSPORTS THEY USED WITH THE US VISAS IN THEM, AND WILL EXPLAIN THE REAL PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT TO THE US. MONTERO ASKED THAT WE NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE PURPOSE OF THE INVESTIGATION, WHICH IS TO RESOLVE THE MATTER SECRET

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OF THE DEATHS OF LETELIER AND MOFFITT. GOC EXPLANATIONS SHOULD HELP CLEAR UP THE MATTER OF SUPPOSED CONTACTS WITH CUBAN EXILES IN THE US, MONTERO ADDED. HE ASSURED US THAT THIS NEW DEVELOPMENT DOES NOT AFFECT THE INVESTIGATION CALLED FOR BY THE LETTERS ROGATORY.

- 5. HABIB SAID WE WILL LEAVE INVESTIGATION TO THE PROFESSIONALS, BUT THAT NOTHING SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO CONFUSE THE ISSUES. THE BROADER POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THIS CASE FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS REQUIRE A FULL AND RAPID INVESTIGATION. HE AGREED WITH MONTERO THAT THE PUBLIC IN BOTH COUNTRIES MUST SEE THAT THERE IS FULL COOPERATION AND THAT JUSTICE IS BEING DONE. HE AGAIN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE SPIRIT DEMONSTRATED BY THE GOC IN SENDING THE DELEGATION. HE ASKED THAT THE GOC KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR LANDAU IN SANTIAGO, IN WHOM WE HAVE COMPLETE CONFIDENCE.
- . MO T RO CLOSED WITH ALMOST FORMAL DENIAL OF ANY HAT I IRR ULARITIES" IN THE MATTER OF THE PASSPORTS HAD OCCURED THAT THEY WOULD BE PUNISHED. HE THANKED HABIB FOR HIS FRANKNESS, A TRAIT WHICH THE GOC SHARED,

AND SAID THAT THE INVESTIGATION WILL BE MOVING FASTER
THAN WE WOULD HAVE EXPECTED. THE DELEGATION WILL
REPORT TO GOC UPON RETURN TO SANTIAGO MARCH 11.

VANCE

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NNN

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